



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7344

January Session, 2007

* _____HB07344HED____051607_____*

**AN ACT CONCERNING RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF
TEACHERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section, "minority" means individuals whose race is defined as other
3 than white, or whose ethnicity is defined as Hispanic or Latino by the
4 federal Office of Management and Budget for use by the Bureau of
5 Census of the United States Department of Commerce.

6 (b) The Regional Educational Service Center Minority Recruiting
7 Alliance, in consultation with the Departments of Education and
8 Higher Education, the constituent units of the state system of higher
9 education and the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges,
10 shall study methods to (1) encourage minority middle and secondary
11 school students to attend institutions of higher education and enter
12 teacher preparation programs, (2) recruit minority students attending
13 institutions of higher education to enroll in teacher preparation
14 programs and pursue teaching careers, and (3) recruit and maintain
15 minority teachers in Connecticut schools.

16 (c) Not later than October 1, 2007, the Regional Educational Service
17 Center Minority Recruiting Alliance, in consultation with the
18 Commissioners of Education and Higher Education, the constituent
19 units of the state system of higher education and the Connecticut

20 Conference of Independent Colleges, shall develop guidelines for pilot
21 programs to recruit and retain minority teachers and may consider,
22 but such consideration need not be limited to, the establishment and
23 operation of the following pilot programs:

24 (1) A fellows program to allow the State Board of Education to issue
25 educator certificates to minority individuals who have (A) completed
26 an intensive summer session focusing on classroom management and
27 methodology, (B) received a bachelor's degree from an institution of
28 higher education accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher
29 Education or regionally accredited, (C) achieved a satisfactory score on
30 the examination required pursuant to section 10-145f of the general
31 statutes or have had such requirement waived pursuant to said
32 section, and (D) have such other qualifications for the issuance of an
33 educator certificate as are required for individuals participating in the
34 alternate route to certification program under section 10-155d of the
35 general statutes;

36 (2) A competitive grant program to assist local and regional boards
37 of education to form and operate future teachers' clubs as part of the
38 extracurricular activities at middle and high schools under their
39 jurisdiction; and

40 (3) A program to allow minority college seniors who are majoring in
41 subject shortage areas pursuant to section 10-8b of the general statutes
42 but who are not enrolled in a teacher preparation program to receive
43 up to three credits for working as cadet teachers in a public school and,
44 upon graduation and recommendation by school officials, to allow
45 such cadet teachers to enter a fellows program pursuant to subdivision
46 (1) of this subsection if such a program is in operation.

47 (d) Not later than January 1, 2008, the Regional Educational Service
48 Center Minority Recruiting Alliance shall report, in accordance with
49 section 11-4a of the general statutes, on (1) the results of the study
50 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, (2) the guidelines for pilot
51 programs developed pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, and (3)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
-----------	---------------------	-------------

<i>ED</i>	<i>Joint Favorable Subst. C/R</i>	<i>APP</i>
------------------	--	-------------------

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*

LM *Joint Favorable*

HED *Joint Favorable*